

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JUNE 21, 1886.

Read twice, referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia, and ordered
to be printed.

Mr. BARBOUR introduced the following bill:

A BILL

For the prevention and cure of contagious and infectious diseases
in the District of Columbia.

Whereas Doctor Mathieu Sonvielle claims to have discovered a perfect method, not heretofore known, for the prevention and cure of all contagious and infectious diseases by destroying the germ of said diseases, and purifying the air, water, and so forth, where the said germ is originated or developed, which method he claims to be far superior to any now in use. The invention consists of a combination of chemicals which will yield vaporous gases that will at once act as prophylactic and therapeutic agents upon any infectious or contagious disease in force or threatening. It is used to destroy the diseased germ already generated or as fast as generated, or preventing their generation, thereby preventing the spread of an epidemic. It may be used in liquid form as a wash for the individual patient or patients suspected of infection or contagion, or used in combustion in small quantities in apartments, dwellings, public buildings, and public conveyances, or in large quantities may thoroughly accomplish its work in all

communities, cities, and large tracts of country. The inventor claims that by its use the death-rate of a locality in which the epidemic is raging may, after the said method has been applied, be reduced fifty per centum in a few days. By this new method the air may be disinfected, the water of cisterns, wells, and reservoirs purified; and the progress of any infectious disease effectually controlled: Therefore,

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
- 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and
- 4 they are hereby, authorized and empowered to contract with
- 5 and employ the said Mathieu Sonvielle to introduce and use
- 6 his said method and system in said District: *Provided, That*
- 7 after a thorough investigation of said method they shall be of
- 8 the opinion that it is desirable so to do.

49TH CONGRESS, { H. R. 9614.
1ST Session.

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